

Call to Artists
Aquatic Center Art
Issued by City of Kingsport Office of Cultural Arts and Engage Kingsport

December 20, 2012

Request for Qualifications (RFQ):
Aquatic Center Public Art Project, Kingsport, TN

Public Art Kingsport and Engage Kingsport requests qualifications from artists or artist teams for the design and or fabrication of art for the Aquatic Center. Potential projects for the Aquatic Center include natatorium railing dividing pool areas, wall art, and outdoor sculpture.

Eligibility: This RFQ is open to all professional artists/artist teams and architects over the age of 18 who currently reside in the United States.

Application Deadline: Applications must be postmarked or received electronically by January 17, 2013, 4:00 PM EST. No exceptions. The application can be found in Appendix A.

Submission Requirements:

- Digital Images: 5 digital images of previously completed artwork. Limit 10 MB per image, JPEG only.
- Resume or CV: Current professional resume or curriculum vitae (CV) including artist address, email, and phone number. Teams must submit one resume/CV with all team members included. Please specify each team member's role.
- Statement(s) of Intent: Maximum 300 words. Address how the applicant's previous experience and current artistic direction will result in a successful permanent public art project. Specific proposals are not requested at this stage in the process and will not be accepted.

Project Budget: Total public art budget for the Aquatic Center is \$75,000, inclusive of design, fabrication, engineering, installation, and travel.

About the Aquatic Center:

The indoor/outdoor water park will be a 46,400 square foot facility located off of Wilcox Drive across from Meadow View Conference Resort and Convention Center.

The Aquatic Center will be a new major attraction for the area. The Aquatic Center will feature an Olympic sized 50 meter pool, a 25 yard warm pool with zero entry ramp, and an indoor recreational pool with water slide. Outside features will include two pools surrounded by a Lazy River; a kiddie pool and a

large leisure pool with two water slides. Current plans also include outdoor sand volleyball courts, party rooms to rent for special gatherings, meeting rooms, shower facilities, restrooms, and a locker room.

The Aquatic Center is beautifully located near a wetlands area at the foot of Kingsport's iconic Bays Mountain. Views from the front parking lot, entrance areas and from the outdoor pools will include cattails as well as the mountain.

The facility is located in the Meadowview District of Kingsport and embodies design principles outlined by Gateway Development Guide. A link to the guide can be found in Appendix B.

Project Details: Public Art Kingsport is seeking artist or artist teams to work with Public Art Kingsport and the Aquatic Center in the design, fabrication, and installation of art inside and outside the Aquatic Center facility. All art should have an aquatic theme and be compatible with the themes of community, fitness and natural beauty. Colors used in the interior of the aquatic center facility can be found in Appendix B.

Proposed areas of focus include:

- Outdoor sculpture between two public entrances to the building.
 - Suggested dimensions: 10 – 12 feet tall and maximum of 6 feet wide.
 - Suggested materials: Any durable material for year round outdoor exhibit.
 - Photo of area: Appendix C.
- Natatorium Railing Panels:
 - The railing in the natatorium will be 6 sections of fencing, 22 feet each with evenly spaced panels secured in a stainless steel railing.
 - The railing will be 3'6" tall and the panels 2'8" tall.
 - The panels are the artist canvas.
 - The artist is invited to provide a design for panels that can be fabricated by the selected firm.

Examples of railing systems can be found in Appendix B.
- The artist is also invited to design a companion piece – portable mural panel, bas relief wall sculpture, etc. - to the railing that can be mounted on the wall facing the grandstand.

Other areas for art:

- In the main entrance hall shared by the YMCA and the City of Kingsport's Aquatic Center can feature painting or murals by an artist.
 - Large glass panels can feature vinyl banners from original art.
- See Appendix C for locations.

Timeline (subject to variation):

January 17, 2013	RFQ Due (received by Midnight MST)
January 24, 2013	Anticipated Artist selection panel shortlist
Late January 2013	Anticipated site visit for shortlisted artists
February 14, 2013	Proposals due from Artists
March 1, 2013	Announcement of selected artists
May 1, 2013	Installation of art
May 15, 2013	Grand Opening

For Further Information:

All questions regarding this Request for Qualifications are to be directed to:

Bonnie Macdonald, Director
City of Kingsport Office of Cultural Arts
macdonald@kingsporttn.gov.

Please include artist name and phone number in all correspondence.

For complete packet of information, please visit: publicart.KingsportTN.gov